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REDLAND ART GALLERY FINALIST 2026 GALLERY AND MUSEUM ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) was delighted to announce **Redland Art Gallery** as a **Finalist** in the **First Nations: Open** category for its *CREATE EXCHANGE* program at the **2026 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA)**, proudly hosted by **Ipswich Art Gallery** on Thursday 8 October.

Now in its twenty-second year, the GAMAA are Queensland's premier awards program for the museum and gallery sector, recognising excellence, innovation and leadership across the State. Special guest, **Ipswich City Council Mayor Teresa Harding**, congratulated this year's recipients and presented winners with individually crafted trophies by acclaimed Queensland glass artist **Jarred Wright**.

Redland Art Gallery was named a finalist in this GAMAA category for *CREATE EXCHANGE*, an ambitious three-year artist residency, exhibition and community engagement program that champions First Nations cultural leadership and collaborative practice.

Developed through strong partnerships, including Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), Haymans Electrical and Data Suppliers, Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders in Council Aboriginal Corporation, schools, community organisations and cultural leaders, the initiative placed Quandamooka artists and knowledge holders at the centre of every stage of the creative process, from exhibition development and mentoring to publishing and public programming.

Celebrating the richness and diversity of contemporary Quandamooka culture, *CREATE EXCHANGE* featured major projects by Sonja Carmichael and Elisa Jane Carmichael, Delvene Cockatoo-Collins and Dean Binjkin Tyson. Across three years, the program attracted 11,219 visitors and engaged more than 1,200 participants, creating opportunities for intergenerational knowledge sharing, community participation and lifelong learning, strengthening connections between artists, communities and audiences.

Through its commitment to partnerships and cultural authority, Redland Art Gallery's *CREATE EXCHANGE* demonstrates how sustained investment in First Nations-led practice can create meaningful and lasting benefits for artists, communities and the broader cultural sector.

Museums & Galleries Queensland Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, commended Redland Art Gallery and its partners, saying, "By placing Quandamooka artists and knowledge holders at the heart of *CREATE EXCHANGE*, Redland Art Gallery has delivered a program that

celebrates First Nations contemporary culture, strengthens community connections and creates meaningful artistic and educational outcomes.”

This year's awards attracted nominations from across the state, recognising excellence in exhibitions, public programs, collections management, First Nations and community engagement, leadership, innovation and volunteer contributions.

M&G QLD congratulates each of this year's winners, highly commended recipients and finalists. Their achievements exemplify the passion, creativity and commitment that continue to enrich Queensland's cultural landscape and inspire excellence across the sector.

ABOUT MUSEUMS & GALLERIES QUEENSLAND

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) is the peak professional industry body for the public museum and gallery sector in Queensland.

Our purpose is to inspire and support excellence in Queensland museums, galleries and keeping places, fostering innovation, connection and cultural leadership.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2026 GAMAA SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The 2026 GAMAA are proudly supported by the **Ipswich Art Gallery** and sponsored by **Public Galleries Queensland** and **Australian Museums and Galleries Association Queensland**.

The 2026 GAMAA trophies are generously supported by **Brian Tucker**.

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